



PATENT APPLICATION 09/911,01
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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application Of:

Scott R. HINSON

Application Number: 09/911,001

Filed: July 23, 2001

For: Distributed Block Frequency
Converter

) Group Art Unit: 2661

) Examiner: Unassigned

*#6 PA
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7/25/02*
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Technology Center 2600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
Washington, DC 20231

Prior to the examination on the merits, please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 8 with the following paragraph.

In more specific embodiments, each of the modulators 401 assert digital output signals to the respective combiners 501A and 501B. Each combiner 501 combines the digital modulated signals into a combined digital signal and includes an internal digital to analog converter (DAC), (not shown), which converts the combined digital signal into a corresponding analog signal. For example, each modulator 401 may be a Quadrature digital up-converter employing QAM modulation techniques, such as the Analog Devices 9856 or 9857 chips manufactured by Analog Devices, Inc., or similar chips such as those manufactured by Intersil Corporation, Broadcom Corporation, etc. As described previously, however, alternative modulation techniques, such as FSK or QPSK, for example, or even un-modulated channels are contemplated. Each combiner 501 may be any appropriate type of combiner such as those provided by Mini-Circuits Laboratories or M/A-COM, Inc. In this manner, the CMC1-4 and CMC5-8 signals are analog signals provided to the corresponding mixers 503A, 503B, respectively. The remaining components including the combiner 513 operate with analog signals